

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An order reception and content transmission
system configured to accept an order for a content,
which is requested from a client via a network, the
5 system comprising:

a reception server configured to issue a
permission ticket to the client upon receiving a first
access request relating to the order from the client;
and

10 a content server configured to transmit the
content to the client in response to a second access
request sent from the client using the permission
ticket.

2. An order reception and content transmission
15 system configured to accept an order for a content,
which is requested from a client via a network, the
system comprising:

a plurality of content servers each of which
stores the same content; and

20 a reception server having a first device
configured to select one of the content servers based
on load conditions thereof, a second device configured
to receive a first access request relating to the order
from the client, and a third device configured to issue
25 a permission ticket to the client, wherein the
permission ticket locates said selected one of content
servers on the network.

3. The system according to claim 2, wherein the first device of the reception server monitors the load conditions of the content servers via a dedicated network.

5 4. The system according to claim 2, wherein the third device of the reception server specifies a time period to control an access using the permission ticket from the client.

10 5. In an order reception system including a reception server apparatus configured to accept an order for a content, which is requested from a client via a network, and a content server which transmits the content, the reception server apparatus for accepting the order comprising:

15 an acceptor configured to accept a first access request relating to the order from the client;

 an issuing device configured to issue a permission ticket, wherein the permission ticket locates said content server on the network; and

20 a dispatcher configured to dispatch the permission ticket to the client and the notice of the issuance of the permission ticket to the content server.

25 6. In an order reception system configured to accept an order for a content, which is requested from a client via a network, and transmit the content from one of a plurality of content servers, each of which stores the same content, a reception server apparatus

come up with the permission ticket from the client;

a request processing device configured to process the permission ticket to confirm a validity thereof; and

5 a content transmitter configured to transmit the content specified by the permission ticket when the validity is confirmed.

10 10. A method for processing an order for a content, which is requested from a client, by a reception server and a content server, the method comprising:

issuing, under the control of the reception server, a permission ticket upon receiving a first access request relating to the order; and

15 transmitting, under the control of the content server, the content to the client in response to a second access request sent from the client using the permission ticket.

20 11. A method for processing an order for a content, which is requested from a client, by a reception server and a plurality of content servers, the method comprising:

providing same contents in each of the content servers;

25 under the control of the reception server, selecting one of the content servers based on load conditions thereof;

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receiving a first access request relating to
the order from the client; and

issuing a permission ticket, wherein the
permission ticket locates said selected one of content
5 servers on the network.

12. The method according to claim 11, further
comprising:

monitoring the load conditions of the content
servers via a dedicated network.

10 13. The method according to claim 11, further
comprising:

specifying a time period to control an access
using the permission ticket from the client.

14. A method for accepting an order for a content,
15 wherein the order is requested from a client via
a network and the content is provided from a content
server, the method comprising:

receiving a first access request relating to
the order;

20 issuing a permission ticket, wherein the
permission ticket locates said content server on the
network; and

dispatching the permission ticket to the client
and the notice of the issuance of the permission ticket
25 to the content server.

15. A method for accepting an order for a content,
wherein the order is requested from a client via

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a network and the content is provided from one of
a plurality of content servers, the method comprising:
selecting one of the content servers based on load
conditions thereof;

5 accepting a first access request relating to the
order;

issuing a permission ticket, wherein the
permission ticket locates said selected one of content
servers on the network;

10 dispatching the notice of the issuance of the
permission ticket to said selected one of content
servers; and

dispatching the permission ticket to the client.

15 16. The method according to claim 15, further
comprising:

monitoring the load conditions of the content
servers via a dedicated network.

17. The method according to claim 15, further
comprising:

20 specifying a time period to control an access
using the permission ticket from the client.

18. A method for providing a content relating to
an order requested from a client via a network, the
method comprising:

25 issuing, in response to a request from the client,
a permission ticket relating to the content in advance;
receiving an access request come up with the

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code means for receiving an access request come up

with the permission ticket from the client;

code means for processing the permission ticket to
confirm a validity thereof; and

code means for transmitting the content specified
5 by the permission ticket when the validity is
confirmed.

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